



Legislation and Policy Affecting Our Region

March 2013

2013 Regional Conference & General Assembly MAY 2 – 3

The Regional Council encourages all elected officials and interested parties to register now for the 2013 Regional Conference & General Assembly, May 2 – 3 at the JW Marriott in Palm Desert. Details and registration links are available at www.scag.ca.gov/ga2013. This year's conference, "Gateway to National Prosperity," will focus on job growth, the economy and working together to build a sustainable region. SCAG's Regional Conference & General Assembly is one of the most prominent and exciting annual regional events, presenting meaningful regional coordination and networking opportunities to all participants. An exciting program is being planned featuring a number of interesting topics and notable presentation invitees, including Governor Jerry Brown, Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom, Senator Barbara Boxer and recently-elected Congressman Raul Ruiz (CA-36). There are a limited number of rooms available at the special conference rate of \$115. Register today.

RC Report

Highlights from the Regional Council Meeting

MARCH 7, 2013

ACTION – FY 2013/14 Draft Budget Approved

The Regional Council approved SCAG's FY 2013/14 Draft Comprehensive Budget and authorized its release for external review and public comment. The balanced budget is fully funded at \$42.9M, an 8% reduction from FY 2012/13. The draft budget includes full funding for all of SCAG's mandated responsibilities and continues strategic Regional Council initiatives. The complete budget is available for review at www.scag.ca.gov/owp/. At the conclusion of the 30-day public comment period, the draft budget will be submitted to the Regional Council for final adoption in May.



Hon. Greg Pettis



Hon. Carl Morehouse



Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker

ACTION – SCAG Officer Nominations - The Regional Council voted in new officers for 2013-2014. Elected today were Hon. Greg Pettis of Cathedral City as President; Hon. Carl Morehouse of Ventura as 1st Vice President; and Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker of El Centro as 2nd Vice President. The slate will be forwarded to the General Assembly in May for ratification, after which they will assume their new posts.

ACTION – RHNA Subcommittee - The Regional Council approved reconvening the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Subcommittee for six months. The Subcommittee meetings will focus on addressing concerns raised during the fifth RHNA cycle, including further collaboration with HCD on administrative changes to improve the RHNA and Housing Element update processes. Based on the effectiveness and scope of the current administrative changes being implemented by HCD the Subcommittee may recommend future legislative clarifications to SCAG's Legislative Communications & Membership Committee.

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From the Executive Director

Additional News for the Month



From left: Timothy Egan, Pres., Capital Representation Group; Wally Baker, Pres., Jobs 1st Alliance; Hon. Larry McCallon, City of Highland; Peter Peyton, former Sec., International Longshore & Warehouse Union; Fran Inman, Sr. VP, Majestic Realty; Greg McWilliams, Pres., Newhall Land & Farming Company; Billie Greer, Pres., Southern California Leadership Council; Hon. Pam O'Connor, City of Santa Monica; Richard Lambros, Managing Dir., Southern California Leadership Council; and Hon. Greg Pettis, City of Cathedral City.

Legislative Reception - SCAG hosted its 2013 Sacramento legislative reception Feb. 20-21. The reception was well attended by SCAG Regional Council members, as well as local business and transportation stakeholder partners who met with state lawmakers and staff to discuss the legislative priorities adopted by the Regional Council. Ana J. Matosantos, California Director of Finance, was keynote to the SCAG-hosted breakfast reception. She discussed the budget and timing of the May Revised Budget. The group also met with Mary Nichols, Chairman of the California Air Resources Board, to discuss the draft Cap-and-Trade Investment plan released Feb. 15. The group met with Brian Kelly and Brian Annis, Secretary and Deputy Secretary for the Business, Transportation & Housing Agency, to review Cap-and-Trade as well as the Governor's initiative to develop a transportation investment program and strategy over the next year for introduction in early 2014.

CalEnviroScreen Tool - On Feb. 15, SCAG and Cal/EPA held a second workshop on the California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen - <http://www.scag.ca.gov/new.htm#calEPAwksp>). The purpose of the tool is to screen the environmental health impacts among California's communities and help Cal/EPA prioritize and focus resources for identifying communities for investment opportunities as required by SB 535. Cal/EPA's Secretary Matthew Rodriguez, Assistant Secretary Arsenio Mataka and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment Chief Deputy Allan Hirsch addressed workshop attendees. Cal/EPA's goal is to finalize the first version of the tool this month.

SCAG REGIONAL CONFERENCE & GENERAL ASSEMBLY

May 2–3, 2013

JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa
Palm Desert, CA 92260

www.scag.ca.gov/ga2013

REGISTER NOW

EVENTS MARCH

- 7th Regional Council & Policy Committee Meetings
- 12th 2013 HPMS Training Workshop
- 19th Toolbox Tuesdays: The Second Annual Implementing Complete Streets
- 26th Transportation Conformity Working Group

APRIL

- 4th Regional Council & Policy Committee Meetings
- 11th Santa Ana River Watershed 2013 Conference
- 16th Legislative/Communications & Membership Committee
- 23rd Transportation Conformity Working Group